

November 16-18, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Detroit Free Press: Michigan judges warned against opposing controversial Court of Claims bill

"The Michigan Judges Association opted not to take a position on the new Court of Claims law partly because its leaders thought doing so could hurt chances of getting a long-awaited judicial pay increase, e-mails obtained by the Free Press show. Oakland County Circuit Judge James Alexander, the association's legislative co-chair, told members that for the association to oppose the bill would be 'a suicide mission that will impact our ability to get compensation,' according to the e-mails obtained Friday."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The MLW Bog: Fearing no pay raise, Michigan judges kept silent about Court of Claims move

[Full story](#)

SBM Blog: Guide To The New Court Of Claims

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: MDP chair talks Court of Claims, governor's race, and 'issue ad' transparency

[Full story](#)

WKAR TV(23)/East Lansing: Off the Record with Tim Skubick (11/15/13 show)

Capitol press corps panel discussed the Court of Claims update and judicial campaign donations.

[Podcast](#)

The Detroit News: Paul W. Smith: Singing at Somerset will greet Santa

"... Join The Lebanese-American Club of Michigan for its 17th annual Trailblazer Award banquet recognizing a fellow Lebanese-American, Michigan Supreme Court Justice David F. Viviano, Nov. 23 at St. Sharbel Banquet and Conference Center, 31601 Schoenherr Road in Warren.... A well-deserved honor for a great guy."

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: High court lets stand Detroit murder trial ruling

"The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday let stand two lower court rulings that will allow a Detroit man convicted of first-degree murder in the 2001 shooting death of a man outside a Detroit bar to receive a new trial. Two of the court's conservative justices dissented from the ruling that upholds the U.S. Appeals Court ruling."

[Full story](#)

Battle Creek Enquirer: City Hall, courts, schools closed by power outages

"Battle Creek City Hall, the Justice Center and several school districts are closed today because of power outages. The city said power was out at City Hall and the adjacent police station was operating on emergency backup power. All courts in the Justice Center are closed as well."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Fourth-generation attorney sworn in by father

"In an emotional ceremony on Nov. 1, Sean M. McNally of Trenton became the eighth member of his family to be sworn in to practice law in Michigan. The ceremony was conducted by his father, Judge Michael K. McNally, at the 33rd District Court in Woodhaven, and included five family members currently licensed to practice law in the state."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Salute

"The Veterans Committee of the Oakland County Bar Association conducted the 2013 Veterans Day Commemoration Ceremony on Friday, Nov. 8, at the Oakland County Commissioners Auditorium in Pontiac. Among the participants in the ceremony were ... Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Michael Warren; ... retired Judge Fred Mester, [and other veterans.]"

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Foster children's charity receives more than \$9,000 in grants (second article)

"On Nov. 14, Detroit-area foster children's charity For The Seventh Generation announced receipt of two grants totalling \$9,375.00 from Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC). The grants – \$4,688.00 from Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southeastern Michigan and \$4,687.00 from the global Ronald McDonald House Charities organization, (national office) – will be used to purchase bed sets for twenty-five metro-Detroit-area infants and children in foster care."

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Press: Family of ailing Grand Rapids District Court Judge Benjamin Logan asks for prayers

"The only thing the family of Grand Rapids District Court Judge Benjamin Logan wants known about the health status of the jurist is that prayers are welcome. Logan has been away from the bench he has held for 25 years since suffering a heart attack in the courtroom on Oct. 22. He remains at Spectrum Health Butterworth Hospital under 'no information' status that protects the privacy of patients."

[Full story](#)

The Herald-Palladium/St. Joseph: Integration aggravation; Berrien, state reach terms on computer system

"A new agreement addresses uncertainties about the promised benefits of a state computer system for courts being implemented in Berrien County, officials said. County commissioners Thursday agreed to continue to participate in the Michigan Computer System and approved an amended memo of understanding with the state."

[Full story](#)

Ingham County Legal News: 2013 Child Welfare Award winners announced

"The Foster Care Review Board has announced the recipients of its 2013 Child Welfare Awards, which recognize exceptional service to children and families in the state's child welfare system. Michigan Department of Human Services Director Maura D. Corrigan presented the awards at the FCRB's annual awards ceremony last week in Bay City.... Judge John A. Hohman, Jr., who was recently named State Court Administrator, received the Jurist of the Year Award for his work as a probate court judge in Monroe County."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Retired justice talks about dark money in judicial races

"When the workings of our government are kept secret from us, we become uncomfortable and suspicious. One big and important secret is where three-quarters of the money being spent on Michigan

Supreme Court elections comes from. We have a right to know exactly how much is being spent and who's spending it.' These words, delivered in a measured way by former Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Marilyn Kelly, outline the challenge posed to democracy by the policy of allowing certain campaign money to be undisclosed."

[*Full story*](#)

Also see:

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Jack Lesenberry: Full disclosure on campaign contributions

[*Full story*](#)